

## New public use airport license category

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Starting July 1, 2011, there's a new category to license an airport for public use. The new category is for Unimproved Airstrips. The Unimproved Airstrip Airport License is for landing areas that have been minimally improved for aircraft operations. These airports will be inspected by the State and issued a license. No commercial operations may be based at these airports, and individuals using these facilities will do so at their own risk.

For more information please visit the licensing and regulation section of the Aeronautics Web page at <http://www.michigan.gov/aero/0,1607,7-145-6774---,00.html>

*R 259.248 Unimproved airstrip airports.*

*Rule 248. (1) An unimproved airstrip public airport license shall be granted if all of the following minimum services and facilities are provided and maintained:*

*(a) Have an airport manager licensed by the commission.*

*(b) At least 1 runway equipped with a 1,200-foot landing length in each direction from a clear approach slope of 20:1 and a 50-foot usable width with an additional 25-foot minimum width on each side which is free of obstructions.*

*(c) An approach slope at a ratio of 20:1 with a width of not less than 100 feet. The approach slope shall be based on a clearance of all objects within the approach area, including a roadway clearance of 15 feet or 17 feet over an interstate highway and a railway clearance of 23 feet. Runway lights shall not be considered obstructions in the runway width required to be free of obstructions.*

*(d) A permanent monument established on the centerline at or beyond each end of the runway.*

*(e) A runway that is well defined by mowing, use of markers, or low peripheral farming with clearly marked displaced thresholds.*

*(f) A wind cone.*

*(2) A person using an unimproved airstrip shall do so at his or her own risk.*

*(3) No commercial operations may be based at an unimproved airstrip airport.*